



Graduation Matters

Montana 101 Worksheet

Step One: Launching a Graduation Matters initiative

Convene a group of school-community-business partners.

At what phase of development is your GMM team?

Not yet formed	Convened once	Meets once in a while	Meets Regularly

- Do you have plans this summer or early next fall to convene your GMM team? If so, what do you hope to accomplish over the summer?
- Do you have students on your GMM team? If yes, how were students selected? How do you involve them in your team? If no, do you plan to incorporate them into your team?
- Do you have business and community members on your team? How do you involve them in your team? If no, do you have a plan to involve them in your team?

Start your own Graduation Matters Team

Ensuring every student graduates from high school ready for college and career is a goal for the entire community. Some ideas of stakeholders include:

_____	School Board Representative(s)
_____	District Superintendent
_____	High School Principal(s)
_____	School counselor (s)
_____	Teacher(s)
_____	Parent(s)
_____	Student(s)
_____	Local foundation rep(s)
_____	Local business owner(s)
_____	Local community leader(s)
_____	Local community-based and/or non-profit organization(s)
_____	Local service organization(s)
_____	Other(s)

(See the GMM Tool Kit for examples of team members, and sample letters of invitation to join the team.)

Step Two: Know your Data

- What data (dropout and graduation rates, attendance, student credits, student focus groups, early warning system, MBI, My Voice, etc.) have you used or plan to use in your GMM work?
- What key insights have you realized by looking at your data? What more do you want to know, and how will you find the information?
- How has your GMM team used data to generate interest, focus and momentum for your local GMM initiative?

Step Three: Implement Research-based Strategies

Describe the 2 - 3 initiatives your GMM team is working on, or plans to work on during the 2014 - 15 school year?

Initiative #1:			
Students Served	Date Started	Frequency of activity	Funded by GMM?
Expected/known outcomes:			
Initiative #2:			
Students Served	Date Started	Frequency of activity	Funded by GMM?
Expected/known outcomes:			
Initiative #3:			
Students Served	Date Started	Frequency of activity	Funded by GMM?
Expected/known outcomes:			

Step Four: Build Support and Keep the Community Informed and Involved

- Did you have a GMM kick-off event, an I Pledge to Graduate event, or any other GMM event during the 2013 – 2014 school year? (If yes, please describe.)
- Did you have student involvement in the planning of the event(s)? If so, how?
- What key factors contributed to the success of the event?
- How often are GMM activities covered in your local media, and what do you do to ensure events and efforts are covered?
- What additional information/support can OPI provide to assist you in your efforts?